

John Steinbeck 1902-1968

Stanford University started but didn't finish

Fired from reporter's job in NY

First three novels failed

Married and divorced three times

1939 Grapes of Wrath (migrant workers) Pulitzer Prize for Literature

Of Mice and Men (story about a cognitively disabled man)

(Title comes from a poem by Robert Burns in the 1700s)

"The best laid plans of mice and men..."

1962 Nobel Peace Prize for Literature

Steinbeck writes about society's outcasts...why?

The Pearl classic- the story was actually an imaginative tale he "heard" in La Paz, Mexico

The novel is a parable- a story that teaches a lesson through symbols

Juana=all women

Kino=priest

Coyotito=little coyote

Rifle=power

Pearl=money, promise, the future

Cano=family, survival